

From: David Griffin
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/7/01 11:30am
Subject: Application monopoly

MS has an OS monopoly, we all know that.

But this is actually supported by its application monopoly.
I'd have moved to Red Hat linux and Star Office years ago but I have no guarantee I will be able to read the files of all the customers I deal with.

So the monopoly of MS Office is preventing me changing OS

And noone else can guarantee to read MS Word files as they could change the format overnight.

Now, this is all fair and lets face it, it's a commercial world, but we are talking about an over powerful monopoly here. What chance does another WP supplier (let alone an OS supplier) have ?
Could one remedy of the settlement be to force them to publish sufficient file format info (or provide sufficient back conversion tools) that other WP's can reasonably guarantee to exchange data ?
I would like to see